

Neighbors Building Neighborhoods

MAY 23, 2022 | Great Neighborhoods Committee

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Today's Discussion

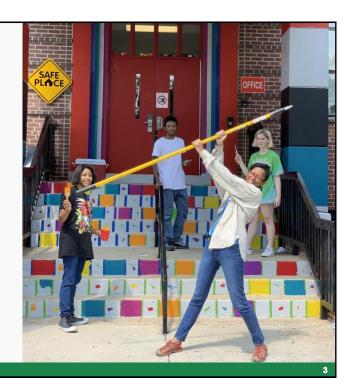
- Neighbors Building Neighborhoods Why and How?
- ⊲Neighborhood Leader Experience
- Emerging from the Pandemic
- Opportunities For Exploration
- ⊲Discussion and Feedback

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Why We Focus on Neighborhoods

- Safe, healthy and inclusive neighborhoods are the foundation of a vibrant and thriving city
- Neighborhood organizations are a key connection point among residents and between residents and the City
- Engaged residents are stronger advocates for themselves & others
- Residents who know their neighbors are more likely to maintain their properties, to volunteer & to help others
- Relationships matter to getting things done



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Keys to Success

- ⊲ Neighborhood Leadership
- Neighborhood Organizing
- Engaged Residents
- ¬Trust, Communication, and Connections
- Education, Awareness, and Skills
- Project Opportunities
- □ Incentives and Project Funding
- Technical and Navigational Support

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Current Programs and Neighborhood Services

- Civic Leadership Academy- cohort-based learning and leadership advancement series that educates & provides personal development, networking and advocacy.
- Neighborhood Board Retreats professional facilitation for neighborhoods & merchant orgs to set goals & develop action plans.
- ¬ Neighborhood & Individual Training- 35+ live and on-demand workshops.
- ¬311 Speakers Bureau provides engaging presentations about local
 government topics to community groups of any size at their request.
- Service Area Liaisons serve as advocates, organizers, connectors, problem solvers and technical support for neighborhoods across the city.
- Neighborhood Organization Contact List (NOCL) –connects subscribers to information about grants, rezoning activity, workshops, programs, events and more.

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Ideas to Action – Community Grants



- Grant programs support neighborhood capacity building and development of social infrastructure.
- Neighborhood Matching Grants (NMG)- awards up to \$25k for community-driven projects such as community safety, beautification, literacy, mentoring, bike & pedestrian infrastructure, signage, branding, legal & strategic support, gardens, festivals, façade improvement and more.
- ¬ Recent special incentive grants- Placemaking, Little Free Pantries, Personal Clean-up kits, Meeting Virtually at Present (MVP), Community Connections Incentive Program (CCIP), CLT250, National Night Out (NNO) and more.

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Pandemic wasn't quiet, it was different

- ¬Staff implemented virtual delivery across programs
 - Accessibility barriers were reduced, participation increased
 - Neighborhoods lacking digital access/literacy struggled to remain connected
- ¬NMG awarded a record number of grants
- Neighborhood projects were big, took longer, prices increased
- KCB saw record litter collection (3,612 bags) and a 54% increase in active volunteer organizations

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Neighborhood Leader Experience

Back Creek Chase



 North End Community Coalition (NECC)



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What We're Hearing & Learning

- → Hybrid is the future.
 - Virtual service delivery is important for increased participation
 - Traditional programming & engagement remains essential for inclusive participation.
- E.A.S.T. Make it Easy, Accessible, Social, and Timely
- Concern about the acceleration of neighborhood change
- ¬Desire to be more welcoming and inclusive
- Neighbors are beginning to reemerge, they need support

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Exploring New Opportunities







- Special Incentive "BOOST" Grant- incentivize and support neighborhood organizing/reorganizing and collateral/promotion of upcoming events including National Night Out, Reunions, Back to School, etc.
- Increase Canvassing Activities in collaboration with community partners
- Community Engagement/Neighborhood Organizing Toolkitinternal and external resource, guiding principles & best practices
- Resource Guide- helpful neighborhood resources in one place

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Questions? Feedback? What are you hearing?

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